

RELATION OF
SVNDRY PARTICVLAR
WICKED PLOTS AND CRVEL,
inhumaine, perfidious; yea, vnnaturall
practises of the Spaniards.

Baudart (15)
n

CHIEFLY
AGAINST THE SEVENTEEN
Prouinces of the *Netherlands*: yea, before
they tooke vp Armes.

GATHERED
AND TRANSLATED OVT OF
Seuerall Dutch Writers, as that Reuerend Diuine *Guliel-*
mus Baudartius, in his *Morgen Wecker*, and *Emanuel de*
Mitter, by S. O. a louer of truth and equity, and
an vnfeigned hater of oppression
and tyrannie, the bane of
Common-wealths.

EXOD. 1. 8. 9. 10.

The new King ouer Egypt said vnto his people, concerning the Israelites,
Gods people; Come on let vs deale wisely with them, lest they
multiply.

PSALM. 2. 4. 5.

He that sitteth in heauens shall laugh, the Lord shall haue them in deris-
ion.
Then shall he speake vnto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore dis-
pleasure.

Printed, Anno 1624.

RELATION OF

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To the wel-affected indifferent Reader.

Gentle Reader, there being so much spoken as thou maist perceiue, by the fore-going Treatise, touching the cruel, inhumane, treacherous, perfidious; yea, vnnaturall practises of the *Spaniards*, in these parts, and elsewhere; which may sufficiently delineate him in his deserued colours, that whosoever beholds him may mourne to see this *Haxael* so to tyrannize ouer the innocent, and that the Lord should permit, and the earth beare such an vnheard of monster; yet notwithstanding much more might be added in sundry other particulars, as the Dutch Chronicles mention, and other Writers haue well set out: amongst which, although I my selfe be a stranger by Nation to them; yet since the time of my abode here, hauing attained some vnderstanding in the Language, I haue thought fit to adde some further particulars, which in my reading I haue obserued, and could adde many more; but my purpose being onely to annex a few things, I will not enlarge, lest I adde another Treatise. But before I come to what I intend, I haue thought fit hauing some oversight in the publishing of this Treatise aforegoing, to note by the way, the ill translating of one word, in the 21 folio, it is touching the Princeesse of *Parma*, the Translator termes her a *crasie* *Queene*, whereas the word beares no such sence in the Dutch, but signifies one that hath a sharp wit to deceiue, as is said of the serpent that beguiled *Eue*. Beside, that that is translated *Embassadour*, speaking of such as were sent from the States to the King, I conceiue to be more fittingly rendred *Messenger*.

First, thou art to vnderstand, gentle Reader, that the King of *Spain* was louingly receiued here in the 17 Prouinces, and a solemn oath was taken on both parts; the King for his part swore to maintaine all their Lawes and Priuiledges, and they to him all due homage and allegiance: He presently demanded of them a summe of money, whereupon the States did assemble, and collected for him 40

The Dutch
word Ghe-
laene signi-
fies in this
sense Em-
bassadour or
Messenger.

millions of Florines, of *Brabants* money, to be paid in nine yeares, and they paid it into his Exchequer; and although it was more then they had paid before to his predecessours, yet vpon this he did take great displeasure against them; and, as they write, he for this did hate them to death.

But he pretended this to be the cause of his wroth, because he saw that there were some among them, that did despise the Pope and all his Religion: but that could not be, for the Citie of *Aelst* was as superstitious in that Religion as *Rome* is selfe; for they did persecute the Reformed Religion euen vnto death: and yet for all that both they, and 170 faire villages that belonged vnto them, were by them plundered and spoyle of all their goods, and many of them wounded and tormented for to confesse where their money was, and many were killed. Thus much by the way.

My scope and chiefe intent, is to shew the first and iust cause of the warres in the *Netherlands*; whereby the diligent Reader (not partially affected) may clearly vnderstand, that the *Netherlands* did not rebelliously take vp Armes against a lawfull Prince, (as some ignorantly thinke and speake) but iustly and religiously defend themselves against a perfidious Tyrant who sought their ruine, by all possible meanes he could, and the subuersion of the whole State. A long while they patiently vnderwent his cruell oppressions, and intollerable vexations; as the Histories clearly manifest; till there was no helpe, but either they must become slaues in soule and body, worse then that of *Israel* in *Egypt*, they and theirs for euer, or else be butchered by mercilesse executioners of a cruell Tyrant. This Tyrant hauing a purpose to innouate all things, to roote out the ancient inhabitants, and to frustrate all the Lawes, Customes and Priuiledges which himselfe had sworn to maintaine, knew not how better to effect his euill ends, then by raising a bloody Inquisition to set ouer them for their gouernment; which said Inquisition (raised in *Spain*) concluded and pronounced certaine Articles, the tenth of February 1568, which were confirmed by the King, the 16 following. Now because it may appeare I doe them no wrong in this charge, I will lay downe the Articles themselves verbatim.

The most sacred Office of Inquisition so often attempted in the *Netherlands* by his Maiestie, and hindred vntill this time, shall bee
iust-

The inquisition was here 4 years before.

instituted and aduanced in this manner, which is most expedient.

1 They must perswade the Emperour, being gone astray, and wickedly confederated with heretikes, that hee resigne his Kingdomes vnto his Sonne, with the whole administration of the Netherlands.

2 That the Emperour with his two sisters, hauing giuen ouer all affaires, leauing the Netherlands, shall retire into Spaine vnto Vs, being assured that they shall neuer returne more to doe any harme.

3 These being dispatcht, we must also draw the king to vs, & keep him for euer that he part not, and not suffer any Flemmings to haue access to conference with him.

4 That the King write vnto, and command the Clergie of the Netherlands, that with the Inquisition they should accept of 15 new Bishops, the which should be free from all secular iurisdiction, yea in cases of treason.

5 The subiects of the Netherlands through their malice and waywardnesse, will reuolt and moue seditions and tumults, pleasing to all but to our companie.

6 The Princes and Noblemen, heads and authours of those factions, with the subiects, must be taken away, and the others reduced vnto reason.

7 They shall hire at our charge theeues and spoilers of Churches and Images, whose offences shall be by all the world imputed to Rebels, by some subtil meanes, and so we shall vanquish them.

8 That all Commerce, Negotiation, Liberties, and Priuileges, shall be rooted out, and that all be reduced to extreame pouertie, whereby the realme shall be permanent for Vs.

9 No man of all those Countreies (except he be of our faction) shall be held worthy to liue; and finally all to be rooted out: and all Goods, Possessions, Arts, and Trades, and all Orders to bee taken away, vntill there may bee a new Realme, and a new people.

10 In this action the wise and valiant Duke *Alua* shall be employed in person; whereas any other, were he of the blood Royall, or a Prince, shall be of no esteeme: so as being suspect, yea in the smallest matters, they must be dispatcht.

11 No Contracts, Rights, Promises, Donations, Oathes, Privileges, and solemn Assertions of the Netherlands, shall bee of any force for the inhabitants, as being guiltie of high treason.

12 But aboue al we must haue an especial care that in these matters of so great weight and moment, wee proceed not violently, but by meanes, by degrees, and that discreetly, to the end the Princes, Nobilitie, and interiour subiects may mutinie amongst themselues, so that one may persecute, yea execute the other vntill at last the hangman be executed himselfe. For in all Christendome there is not a Nation more foolish and indiscreet, and whose leuitie and inconstancie may sooner be deceived then these Netherlanders, and God punisheth them accordingly.

There were other Articles found in President *Vergas* chamber at *Antwerpe*, and there Printed; and those are more cruel then these.

By these articles and vnlimited power of these lawlesse Inquisitors, no man had any assurance of life or goods for a day, but were In danger continually to be called in question, either for the law of their God, or for some worke of mercie, which either religion, morall equitie, or the bond of nature called for: or else if they had colour for none of these, they would impose such vnreasonable taxations, which if the Cormorants had not their gorges cramed full they would make prey of all, whether by right or wrong it mattered not. But my purpose being to avoyd prolixitie, and to passe by impertinences and needlesse repetitions, I will come to that I intended. In the yeere 1565 a match was concluded for the Prince of *Parma*, and the nuptials were solemnized at *Bruxels*, whither all the Nobilitie and Gentry of the Countrey were inuited, and accordingly there met of them about foure hundred, who like faithfull *Moses* being grieved to see the dayly oppression of their brethren by the hard task-masters of the Inquisition, who not onely robbed them of their goods, but also by inhumaine cruelty, and vnnaturall butchery, depriued them of their liues, who daily led them as sheepe unto the slaughter: The consideration hereof they ioynly layd to heart, and hereupon (being met vpon this occasion) they resolved to present all petition to the Princesse of *Parma*, which they did the 5 of April
next

next followings. The Earle of Breckrood deliuering the petition, humbly requested a fauourable answer. Three dayes after they receiued this answer, viz. they should send two of their Noblemen to the king, by whom she would write in their behalfe. The Lord of Barlaymont being present, after their departure said (*like a flattering Courtier*) they were a company of Rascals and Beggars.

It was concluded that the Marquesse of Bergen, and the Lord of Mountigny should goe into Spain, who humbly presented their suite to the King, but could get no answer in 16 moneths after.

The 26 of August *anno 1566*, the Princeesse of *Parma* sent for the Gentic, telling them she had receiued letters from the King, containing promise that all should be well; and that the Inquisition should cease. And for the Proclamations they should not be of force, but his Maiestie would take such order as they and the State should like well of. The Princeesse also gaue them toleration for their Religion, on condition they should not deface, nor breake downe the ornaments of the Churches: for, there had beene before this time vilde and lewde persons that frequented the meetings of the Reformed; these went into the Papiests Churches, stole their siluer and what was worth carrying away, and brake downe their Images: but the Reformed suspected that this was done by the appointment of the Princeesse, neither was their suspicion without good ground, for *Enmanuel de Miser faith that in Flanders theyooke 50 of them at one time, and hanged 22 and 100 of the rest.* it is to be seen in the kings letters, *Art. 7.* that she had order to hire this raskall company to doe this villany, which fact was imputed to the Protestants, to the end that they might not onely be odious there, but also seeme guilty, euen in the iudgement of other Nations; howbeit the offenders were punished with imprisonment, yea, with death, euen by the Reformed themselves, who ioyntly confessed the action vnlawfull, and were so farre from giuing occasion of offence in this nature, that Papiist Burgers themselues offered good security that no such thing should be attempted by them. Who then can make any doubt that they were free from hauing any hand in those outrages layd to them, the very opposites in Religion being Iudges, who as appeares were willing to vndertake for them; now as their faithfullnesse brought so good effect for their persons, so did the Lord worke that the truth of Religion found many friends likewise, the Lord wondrously prospering the course of Reformation, in so much

much that in short space they had in *Flanders* 60 Assemblies, some Churches they themselves builded, but were by Duke & *Alma* soon cast downe, who erected gallowses of them, and hanged them vpon them.

The Princeesse of *Parma* also began to entertaine souldiers with pretence to apprehend the Church-robbers, but intended indeed to take away the ancient Liberties and Priuiledges of the *Netherlanders*, wherefore sending certaine companies to *Valencyn*, the inhabitants denied them entertainment, who for that were proclaimed Rebels the 14 of December, soone after they were besieged, sacked, and many of them put to death.

But before they of *Valencyn* denied entertainment to the souldiers, the Nobility had received letters out of *Spain*, from the Marquesse of *Bergen*, shewing, that the King was exceedingly incensed against the *Netherlands*, that he had in the presence of many vowed to be fully reuenged of them, though it were with the hazard of all his Countries; that he would make them an example to all the world, and would inuite the Pope and Emperour to assist him in this quarrel. Vpon the receipt of the letters the Nobility assembled at *Dortmond* to consult what were best to be done, but concluded not any thing, some iudging it safest to ioyne, and make head to resist his tyrannicall furie, other seeking rather to escape by flight.

Now was the Inquisition againe brought in contrary to the Lawes and Liberties of the Countrey, which the King was sworne to maintaine, for execution whereof there were appointed 12 Inquisitors, commanding them to receiue the Councell of *Trent*, these were called, *The bloody Councell*, and so they were indeed, which *Rome* well knew, refusing it, anno 1559. when as they fell vpon the Inquisitors house, set it on fire, wounded the chiefe of them, brake open the prison, and set at liberty the captaiues, and would haue burned a Cloyster that belonged vnto them, had they not been by faire means dissuaded by two Lords in the Citie, viz, *Marc. Antonio Columus*, and *Julio Cesar*.

Likewise *Venice*, *Naples* and *Millaine*, though they be Papists, would not suffer it; the Marchants of *Lisbon* who are as superstitious in the Romish Religion as any in the world, yet they did offer the

He pretended
it for
Religion,
but his aime
was to get
their Lands
and goods.

the King two millions and a halfe, that they might not haue it in their parts.

Yet the crueltie of this Inquisition did here increase, and many Souldiers came into the Countrey, that some of the Countrey forsooke their houses, and resorted towards Freezland, and some did stay at home, and went to meet Duke *Alva*, and well-commend him into the countrey, and shewed him all the kindnesse they could, but he very shortly tooke off most of their heads, so that he did so terrifie *As the Graves of Egmond, and the Grave of Horn, and many of the Gentry at Brussels, 1568,* the Inhabitants, that there fled out of the Countries more then an hundred thousand housholders, besides many that were taken in flying, were taken and hanged, and all these had their goods confiscated to the King.

The Prince of Orange, and the Earle of Bredrod, and five Earles, eight Lords, and 50. Gentlemen, and they had some five thousand of Souldiers being in Freezland, but were most over-throwne by the Duke of *Alva* his forces, so that they were driuen to Embden land, and there prepared themselves to the Sea.

Now the Duke of *Alva* did command all the Inhabitants to pay the hundreth penny of all their goods, and of all that was bought and sold; the which some of the States did yeeld vnto: and then he commanded them to pay the twentieth penny: and then he commanded the tenth penny of all things that were bought and sold, so often as they should be sold. Some of the States did make their humble petition to the Duke, and to the Princes, shewing them that it would driue all Trading out of the Land. The Duke of *Alva* told them that he would haue it, though it did ruinate all the Land; but if he saw them willing to doe their best to pay it, he would deale favourably with them. But he said that it was against the Kings honour if they should not pay it, seeing it was his pleasure to require it. And now did the Inquisition imprison and execute many of the richer sort, as well Papists as of the Reformed Church: and if they were rich there was no escaping for them. And whosoever was found to haue any hand in way of suit and petition to haue the tenth penny to be remitted, they were adiudged to haue committed high treason against God and the King; and all these must forfeit life and goods to the King, and not any of their children to enioy one penny worth of the same: but (poore Orphanes) they must begge their

bread. And some that had bene buried certaine months, they caused them to be digged vp, and hanged on the gallows, and some to be burned, because they had not the sacrament, and confessed before their death; but it was because he would confiscate their goods to the King: yea when these insatiable gold-thirsty and blood-thirsty wretches wanted colour to cover their iniustice and cruelty, they had their officious imps (false witnesses) suborned by *Isebel*, to get *Naboths* vineyard; witness *Martin Hutton*, who was one of the Inquisitors Clarks, and (being committed to prison) did acknowledge, that hee had made many false testimonies against sundry rich persons, some whereof were of the Reformed Church. Here might sily be brought in the hundred Marchants of *Granado*, who were of the Romane Religion, and were never other; what pretence had he to cause them to be murdered all in one night, and then presently to command all their goods to be brought to his Treasury or Exchequer, whose estate was worth more then 18 hundred thousand pound sterling? Now as this tyrant was a devourer and destroyer of the liues of men, so did he presume to vsurpe further not onely vpon ciuill ordinances, but vpon the things of God; so that those that were married in the Reformed Church, he forced to be married againe: and if they were rich, hee tooke them from their husbands, and gaue them to his Souldiers to make prize of them. Those that were baptized in the Reformed Church, he compelled to be baptized againe, contrary to Gods word, and to the decree of the ancient Councels, so that inrollerable were the burthens this cruell *Pharao* laid, so excessiue was his crueltie, that he filled all places with blood, *blood touching blood*, as the Prophet speakes. For in small townes he executed 50. and in great townes 200. and 300. or 400. And in places as men travelled from one towne to another, they might see many that his Souldiers had hung vp in trees to death, and some were worth 80. thousand guldens, and some lesse: yea this tyrant did confiscate so much lands and goods, as by his account sent into *Spaine*, did amount yearly to 8. run of money sterling, besides the many thousands that he and his Souldiers had. All the money that he did exact out of this land in 6. yeares, did amount to more then 50. millions of Gold. And if any were knowne to haue any thing that did belong to any that were put to death,

death, and had not brought it to the knowledge of the Inquisition, they did loose both life and goods: yea the 16 of February 1566. he gaue sentence in his court at *Adrad*, that they were all traytors against God and himselfe. At *Vrecht* he beheaded a widow that was 84. yeares old, because she had before lodged a preacher one night, whose living was worth foure thousand guildens yearly. And at *Mastricht* a father for lodging his son that he had not seene in a long time, that was fled for religion, was put to death. And at that place there was one put to death for giving a widow a peck of corne for an almes, whose husband this bloody court had put to death. And many women were put to death, because they receiued their husbands in the night that were fled for religion; yea they haue killed women great with child, and dripped vp their bellies, and taken out the child and killed it: and some they haue flayed aliue, and covered drummes heads with their skins, and some they haue tyed to a post, and made a small fire round about them, and so roasted them to death.

At *Naerden* they receiued the Spaniards friendly into the towne, *The Spaniards* who promised them both their liues and goods; and as soone as they *they did as* came in, they commanded them to come to the State-house without *Order* their Armes, the which they did, and the Spaniards gaue fire vpon them and murdered them all: and then they ran about in the town, and ravished the women, and after killed them and fired the towne. The young children that lay in the cradle, they quartered them, and rooke them vpon their pikes, and so went vp and downe the towne, reioycing in their crueltie.

Such savage cruelty is scarcely to be found in any History, what Christian heart can heare it, and not be affected with deepe sorrow, yet behold some monsters herein haue bin found, that haue beene so farre from humanity herein, (for hee that hath humanity in him will commiserate others calamities) that they haue applauded it, as if he had in all these outrages done God good service. Amongst the rest, I shall content my selfe at present, but to name the holy Father the Pope, and one of his chiefe sonnes in this businesse. The Pope sends his Legat to commend these so rare expioits, and calls this cruell Duke *Alva* his beloved son, sends him a costly sword, the hilts whereof were of gold, and a hat wrought with gold, and beset with rich and costly stones, thanking him for

his good service in maintaining the Romish Religion, and subverting of heretiks. Howbeit that his chiefe sonne I mentioned (exceeding this man of sinne, in the sinne of cruelty, as if hee would verifie himselfe to be ten fold more the child of Satan, then his father the Pope) thinkes not so well of it, his name is *Vergas*, the President of this bloody Inquisition; for going shortly after into *Spaine*, hee told the King, that he and Duke *d'Alva*, did marre all in the *Netherlands*, by shewing so much mercy to those people.

Concerning this Duke *d'Alva*, of whose outrage and crueltie so many haue felt, and perfidious dealing which many haue found by lamentable experience, whereby may easily appeare of what stamp his excessive mercies are, even such as the *Wittman* speakes of, *Pro. 12. 10. The tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.* In which hee prides himselfe, boasting he had slaughtered eightene thousand and six hundred, in forme of justice, in six yeares times, and ten times so many he and his Souldiers murdered otherwaies. And many more would he doubtlesse haue murdered, had not the Lord restrained and limited him, for his desire herein was as hell, that cannot bee satisfied: Witnesse the purpose of his proceeding against the Magistrates of *Bruxels*, because they did not collect the tenth peny so as he desired. He swore that he would haue it, and before he would let it fall or remit it, the Sunne and Moone should leaue their shining, so he went to *Brussels*, and commanded the executioner to prepare ladders and ropes to hang vp that night in their doores 70. of the Citizens, and gaue them his warrant in writing what they should be: But God in his providence prevented this his cruel purpose, in that there came newes that the Graue of Mark hath taken in the *Brill*, so the tyrant did not goe forward with his bloody enterprises.

Thus having given you a taste of some of those many things I haue observed concerning the intolerable oppression, & worse then salvage cruelty of the Spaniards, exercised vpon the people, which they endured and laboured vnder the space of sixteene yeares: I will now leaue these cruel tyrants to the Lord for judgement, & adresse my selfe to speake somewhat further concerning this Earle of Mark, who had those Gentlemen with him that fled. Before this hee had layne with his shipping in England, but the King of Spain sending his Embassadour to our Queen, (who was then in peace with him)

Those words
he spake at a
banquet, as
he sat at the
Table, reioy-
cing he had
done the
King so good
service.

Aug. 1 573.
April. 1.
I haue instan-
ced but 4 or
5 cownes, but
there were
scarce any
anyone escaped
their cruel
pillaging, ex-
cept they had
bribed their
Commanders
with exceeding
large gifts.

to desire her that she would not suffer his subjects to haue their harbour in her land, and that she would not giue them or suffer them to haue any reliefe whereby they should make head against him: and heere vpon the Queene sent and commaunded them out of her harbour; and she commaunded that they should not be suffered to haue any provision in her coasts, so that now they had no other meanes but onely God, who did in his mercie provide for them better then they expected. For they were purposed to haue gone for the Tassel, and to haue taken some towne about that part; but when they came neere that part, they had wind contrary that they could not come there, so they went for the Mase, and came with their ships before the Brill, and there they went presently and tooke it; yet the Duke of Alva had his forces in the towne, neere so many as they were, whom they presently killed and chased out of the towne, and out of the Iland. The Prince of Orange being in France, and hearing what had happened, he sent them souldiers with as much speed as could be out of France. And within one moneth after Duke Alva sent certaine companies to Vlissing to keepe that place strong for himselfe, and many of the commanders were come into the towne: So the Magistrates commanded the Citizens to come presently vpon the Statehouse; so they told them they must lodge the Spaniards in their houses; and they knowing how they had vsed the Citizens in all places where they came, they told the magistrates they would not haue the Spaniards in their towne. The Magistrates asked them which of them it was that did refuse to receiue them. They sayd, All of them. So the Magistrates seeing them so earnest against the Spaniards, they joyntly tooke their Armes, and killed and tooke prisoners all them that were in the town, & with their Ordenance they shot at his ships where the Spaniards were and they made away. And of those that were taken, there were the names of about 80. that they had in writing to Duke Alva that dwelt in the Hand, that they should put to death. So those of the Brill sent their souldiers with speed to helpe them. And shortly the Prince of Orange came with forces and defended them; and some other townes seeing the crueltie of the Spaniards, forsooke the Spaniard, and joyned with them, and tooke the Prince of Orange to be their Protector, yet the States notwithstanding did remaine in obedience to the King some seven yeares after.

He had appointed those to be executed because they were the chief that stood against the payments of the

Againe it is further worthy to be noted, that these Provinces did three times send to the King their Noblemen, but could obtaine no mercy, and many more times they went to the Princesse of Parma, and made their humble petition for redresse of their oppression, but could not obtaine any fauour, then they made friends to the renowned Queene of England, and to the Princes of Germany, and to the Emperour, who did earnestly entreat by their Embassadors for them. The King of Spain answered their Embassadors with these words; he bad them tell their Masters, *That they should meddle with their owne subiects, and not with his, for he knew well enough how to rule his subiects without their counsel.* Now when our Queenes Maiesty found his vnreasonablenesse and cruelty, then and not before, shee assisted them with Armes.

Ann. 1575.

Carplan in
his Chronicle
in 1567.

His owne Sonne Prince Charles did intreat for them, that it would please him to let them haue their Lawes and Priviledges, and that they might not be oppressed; and withall he told his father that those Countries did belong to him, and that they were given him at his Baptisme, for the which his father sent him to prison, and he never came out againe. If the Lord would not haue forgot what Amalek did, long after, for smiting the weakest and hindmost of his people, how may wee in equity forget the infinite murders, and spoyles, this cruell Tyrant hath executed where-ever he hath prevailed? And who can forget in speciall that bloudie attempt against our selues, in the yeere 1588.

If I should trace this Tyrant from place to place, I should runne in infinitum, having made the name of Christianitie hatefull, by his crueltie, aganist the Heathens that know not God further then the light of nature: for it is confessed by the Spaniards themselves, that some of the cheife of the Indians, who were to be burnt to death, being told of heaven and hell, they asked whether the Spaniards went whē they dyed. It was answered to heaven, *Oh then sayd they, we will never come there, for we wil never come where the Spaniards are.* But not to run so far, I will rest content to keepe me within the bounds I chiefly intended concerning these Countries. When the Citizens of Leyden were in great extremity, by reaso of a long sieg, the Spaniards proffering conditions of peace, if so be they would yeild vp the Citie and themselue to them, they returned answer; *Not while they*
shall

they were re-
sisted by a
popish Priest
I made, that
after this life,
there was one
lace for ioy
and another
for sorrow.

had a right hand to hold the sword, or a left to eat; but if they should be driven to fall into their hands, they would rather burne the Citie and drowne themselves, then to submit to them, of whose perfidiousness they had had so lamentable experience: and when some of the Citizens pressed a yielding, in respect of the extremity of famine, a Burger master, called *Peter Adrian* said; *Loving friends, I confesse the famine is great, and that some doe die for want of food: yet rather let vs agree to eat up one another, as it shall fall by lot, begin with me first, and divide me amongst you.*

At *Amsterpe*, the Spaniards by the appointment of their Governour did come into the Citie in battell-order, and marched vp and downe in their streets, and shot into their houses, and made a tumultuous noise, as if they had beene so many devils, for one day and two nights, and tooke the keyes from the Magistrates, and set watch at the Ports, whereby they put the Citizens in so great feare, that many women with childe fell in travell, and some dyed with feare: and they went by 12. or 20. into the best houses, and commanded them to prepare them the best cheere, as boyled and rost, and other dainty dishes, as they list to call for; and besides beere, they would haue at least two sorts of Wine. And all the chiefeest Citizens houses had at least ten of these guests. And they all cryed out for money, and said, that they would haue 15. moneths pay, before they went out of the Citie of them; And the Magistrates told them that they would procure them in cloth, and apparell, and money the summe; but they all cryed out for money, & that money they would haue before they went away; so at the last, the Magistrates got the money, which did amount to 400. thousand Guldens. And the charge they were at, which these companions did cost the Citizens, was 600. pound Sterling the day; and thus they were oppressed with them 28. dayes, in which time they had made them all rich suites, some of sattin and velvet, and some of cloth of gold: and one of them had a cushion of velvet, with these wordes in Letters of Gold. *I am the Dutchmans Bride well Master.* And thus they got rid of them for the present. And about two yeares after they came againe, and then they vsed the Citizens much more cruelly, for these diuels did bring straw, and set on fire, and put it into the houses, whereby they set nine rich streets on fire, and burnt them with many rich and costly goods, and rifled the Citizens of all their rich and costly jewells, and silver-workes, with their money, and three dayes did they torment

They did this as well to the Spirituall, as to the Temporall, as first excepted.

They did offer them ransom in money, and the third in cloth, but they cryed all for money.

I doe make here a short Relation of some of the cruelties they did against this Citie, yet there are many more in the Chronicle, and I haue not space to enquire of their further cruelties.

has they are
now and have
sene this 30.
years more qui-
etly yeld
e. But why?
doe that they
have changed
their former na-
me, for they
will hold the
former princi-
ples of the Coun-
sell of Trent,
that being more
subtill, and
finding their
stronghold is
more weakened,
they dare not
so presume as
formerly.

the Inhabitants for money: and in this time there was murdered of the Citizens about foure thousand. The money they tooke at that time is reckoned for more then fortietun of gold, besides the Jewels and the losse they had by fire, was as much as the rest. And thus was the best Citie of Marchants in Europe ruined.

At Risell there was a Spaniard would force a rich woman to have the vse of her body, and the woman cryed out for helpe, and her husband came, and two of his neighbours to helpe his wife, and they thrust the Spaniard away, and he ran into the street and cryed *Spayne, Spayne*, and there came many Spanish Souldiers about him, and they rushed into the house, and tooke the man and his neighbours, and carried them before the Magistrates on the towne-houle, where they were assembled, and there before them he complained of them to be rebels, and stirres vp of vp-rores, and told the Magistrates that if they did not presently put them to death, they would burne their towne, and execute them themselves, wherevpon they durst do no otherwise, but hanged two, and whipped the other.

Divers things being manifested of the Spaniards crueltie, I will adde one instance of their trechery, and that of a famous person to his neereest familiars: yea when he pretended sweetest familiaritie and friendship. Pope *Alexander* the 6, a Spaniard by birth, invited divers Nobles & Cardinals to a banquet, with a purpose to poyson them all. The meekest instrument he made choyce of to effect this, was a Spaniard, one *Cesar Burgia*, his sworne servant. The Pope shewed himselfe wonderfull pleasant, to avoide suspicion, and dranke a carouse to them all, willing that his trusty servant to fill from such a Bottle he knew well: which he did very effectually to the Pope himselfe as well as to the rest. After the company was departed, the Pope percei-ving by an alteration in himselfe, what was done, and that he must die now also, said to *Burgia*, *This is a right Spanish trick*. It is written of them that they are so expert in these exployts, that if *Judas* himselfe were alive, he might goe to them to Schoole.

I doe beseech the Lord to shew mercy to my native Country, that they may never come under the government of the Spaniards, and give them hearts to repent of their transgressions, and that they may sincerely embrace the Gospel of Iesus Christ, to their endlesse comfort. Amen.



to command in all services, for the
advancement of the truth of Iesus Christ.

